

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 04927 131423Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03
TRSE-00 /029 W

-----122376 140607Z /17

R 131341Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2547
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, IS
SUBJECT: A MIDEAST VISIT TO WEST BANK/GAZA

REFS: (A) STATE 82804, (B) JERUSALEM 980,
(C) TEL AVIV 4563

1. PARKER AND MIZE OF AMIDEAST REPORT THAT THEY WERE STRUCK BY LACK OF ANY READILY APPARENT INSTITUTIONS IN GAZA ON WHICH TO BUILD THEIR PROGRAM. THEY FEEL THAT, FOR INSTITUTIONAL AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT, ASSISTANCE AT A LEVEL MORE BASIC THAN A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS REQUIRED. MIZE EXPRESSED SOME DOUBT THAT GAZA COULD ABSORB MANY COLLEGE GRADUATES, OUTSIDE THE AREA OF EDUCATION. IN THEIR OPINION, NEITHER GAZA COLLEGE, A PRIVATE CHRISTIAN INSTITUTION RUN BY THE TERAZI BROTHERS, NOR AZHAR COLLEGE, CONNECTED WITH THE AL AZHAR UNIVERSITY IN EGYPT, IS A SUITABLE VEHICLE FOR DEVELOPMENT INTO A JUNIOR OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE. MAYOR SHAWA SAID THAT THERE IS A GROWING COMMUNITY CONSENSUS THAT GAZA NEEDS AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING. EMBASSY FEELS THAT, IF AMIDEAST MAKES A CONTRIBUTION IN GAZA OVER AND ABOVE SCHOLARSHIP AID, IT SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO MEET SPECIFIC GAZAN REQUESTS, SUCH AS THE GAZA LIBRARIAN TRAINING PROJECT.

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2. GOI: AFTER TWO MEETINGS WITH MINSOCWEL AND ONE WITH MFA, AMIDEAST SHOULD HAVE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED TIES WITH GOI. GONEN, OF MFA, APPEARED VISIBLY RELIEVED THAT MIZE COULD PROVIDE MFA WITH AMIDEAST'S PRE-67 AGREEMENT WITH THE JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES. GONEN ADDED THAT ANY NEW ORGANIZATION JUST STARTING OPERA-

TIONS SHOULD HAVE A FORMAL LETTER FROM THE EMBASSY TO THE MFA. GONEN SAID THAT AMIDEAST'S TAX STATUS MUST BE DEALT WITH AT MINFIN. GONEN DID EMPHASIZE THAT ONCE CANDIDATE SELECTION IS MADE, THESE NAMES MUST BE CLEARED WITH ISRAELI SECURITY. GOI OFFICIALS LATER TOLD EMBOFF THAT THEY ANTICIPATE A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP. LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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